



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

DOS Review Completed.

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March 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
'THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Weekly Report on Cambodia No. 28

Political and Diplomatic Developments

1. Lon Nol's Health. Lon Nol will be ready fairly shortly to leave Tripler Hospital, where his recovery has been excellent. We expect him to stay on in Honolulu for at least another month to continue his convalescence as an outpatient. The present prognosis is that he will be able to resume activity, walking with a cane or brace, and having partial use of his left arm and hand. In Cambodia, meanwhile, there continues to be little public evidence of disquiet over the state of his health. Religious ceremonies have been held to speed his recovery. Beneath the surface, some youth and intellectual groups who do not fully trust Sirik Matak are reportedly becoming restless, but they do not threaten the government's present stability.

2. U.S. Aid Agreements. Agreements providing \$8.5 million in P.L. 480 assistance and the initial tranche of \$10 million economic aid (commodity imports) were signed in Phnom Penh March 2.

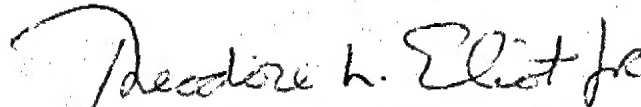
3. Foreign Minister's Visit to Australia and New Zealand. The establishment of diplomatic relations between Cambodia and New Zealand was announced during the Cambodian Foreign Minister's visit to the latter country. In Australia, according to press reports, Koun Wick endorsed intensified United States or RVN military action against North Viet-Nam as the only means of putting an end to NVN aggression against Cambodia and Laos.

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In an interview with a semi-official Cambodian publication which appeared just before his departure for Australia and New Zealand, the Foreign Minister reaffirmed that Cambodian neutrality requires the country to recognize Communist China. Peking, he pointed out, is one of the principal parties to the 1954 Geneva accords, whose re-establishment is a goal of Cambodian foreign policy.



Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary